

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

<b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>CRIMINAL NO.</b> _____
<b>v.</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>DATE FILED:</b> _____
<b>DENNING McTAGUE</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>VIOLATION:</b> <b>18 U.S.C. § 641 (theft of government</b> <b>property - 1 count)</b>

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**INFORMATION**

**COUNT ONE**

**THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY CHARGES THAT:**

At all times material to this information:

1. The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) was an agency of the United States that safeguarded and preserved the records of our government, assuring that people could discover, use, and learn from this documentary heritage. The NARA carried out this mission through a nationwide network of archives, records centers, Presidential libraries, and on the Internet. The National Archives - Mid Atlantic Regional Program served the geographic areas of Pennsylvania, Delaware, West Virginia, Maryland and Virginia. The Philadelphia Archives facility was located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

2. Defendant DENNING McTAGUE is an avid and educated cultural and historical artifacts collector, having obtained a Masters degree in History and a Master of Science in Information Systems with a concentration in archives.

3. Defendant DENNING McTAGUE was the owner and operator of Denning House, a business formerly located in New York and then located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

which described itself on its website as a “Purveyor of: Rare and Unusual Books, Maps, Manuscripts, Interesting Paper and Americana.”

4. Through a university, defendant DENNING McTAGUE obtained an unpaid internship with the NARA Philadelphia Archives facility.

5. As an intern at the NARA Philadelphia Archives facility, defendant DENNING McTAGUE was responsible for arranging and organizing documents in a specific section of the archives in preparation for the upcoming Sesquicentennial, 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, of the American Civil War which begins in 2011. The grouping assigned to defendant McTAGUE included the Records of the Office of the Chief of Ordnance Administrative History and Letters, Telegrams and Endorsements Received between 1816 and 1907. Many of these documents related to the ordering and sending of supplies, ordering of materials for arsenal construction, ordering of goods for munitions manufacturing, and other administrative matters of the Army.

6. From in or about June 20, 2006 through on or about August 16, 2006, in Philadelphia, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, defendant

#### **DENNING McTAGUE**

stole, purloined, and knowingly converted to his own use, things of value of the United States and of the NARA, in an amount over \$1,000, that is, approximately 165 Civil War era documents, of which 161 have been recovered, including orders, letters and telegrams relating to supplying guns, gun powder and swords to the troops, an Order from the War Department announcing the death of President Abraham Lincoln to the troops and a letter from J.E.B. Stuart, a famous cavalry man of the Civil War, which documents had come into the possession and under the care of defendant DENNING McTAGUE by virtue of his internship at the NARA

Philadelphia Archives facility. Defendant McTAGUE then placed most of the items for sale on eBay on the internet.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 641.

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**PATRICK L. MEEHAN**  
**United States Attorney**